

Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Monday - 14 May 1973

Page 2

5. (Unclassified - LRH) At the beginning of today's proceedings of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the Acting Chairman raised the question of the release of General Walters' testimony in view of the fact that this would become part of grand jury proceedings in the Watergate hearings. I spoke to James Woolsey, General Counsel of the Committee, and said I thought I should discuss it with Henry E. Petersen, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and Woolsey agreed, saying there was no particular urgency. I did talk to Petersen, who said their preference in all matters relating to the grand jury proceedings was not to make preliminary publicity releases, but that in all honesty in the present situation so much material had become public that he did not believe testimony such as General Walters' would adversely affect the trial. I passed this on to Woolsey, suggesting he might want to talk to the Chairman about this and possibly consult Petersen directly. Woolsey said he would take it up with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel to the Committee.

6. (Unclassified - LRH) In talking with James Woolsey in connection with another matter, I said I thought I might explain the background of the papers which had been given to the Attorney General on 24 October 1972 and which were explained by further material given to Petersen in December 1972. I said we had initiated our own investigation of the Watergate episode when the newspapers carried familiar names, such as McCord and Hunt, to see if we had any possible continuing connection with them. Simultaneously, we began to get inquiries from the FBI and responded to them in routine fashion. Later, perhaps in early fall, Seymour Glanzer, Assistant to Earl J. Silbert, Principal Assistant U.S. Attorney, had called my Deputy, John Warner, with whom he had worked before, to say he needed to talk to Warner because of implications that we were connected with the Watergate matter. Warner met with Glanzer and Silbert and noted a series of questions they asked him. We prepared the answers, which contained some sensitive information about placement of certain of our employees. Because of the sensitivity, the answers were carried by Richard Helms and me to Richard Kleindienst, who turned them over to Petersen. Since there was no apparent connection at that time with the trial of the people arrested in connection with the Watergate affair, Petersen agreed to hold the material and to brief Silbert from it. He did this, and Silbert provided some additional questions, which we subsequently responded to directly to Petersen. I said that all this was implicit in the file, but it might not be as clear as it should be. Woolsey said he had gotten the idea from the file but very much appreciated my comments.